

N^o 9

St. James's 21st July 1775.

Sir,

We have certain Intelligence that
a very illicit Trade is carrying on to His
Majesty's Colonies in America, as well
by British as Foreign Ships; and as it
becomes so necessary in the present Juncture
to prevent, as much as possible, the Continuance
of It, Orders have been sent to the Commanders
of the King's Ships in the American Seas to
be particularly attentive to intercept and
seize any British or Foreign Ships which
may be found with prohibited Goods, or
warlike Stores, destined for His Majesty's
Colonies in America. I have thought it
not improper to mention this to you, and
as I am informed, thro' a good Channel,
that Gunpowder is sent from Naples

Sir William Hamilton.

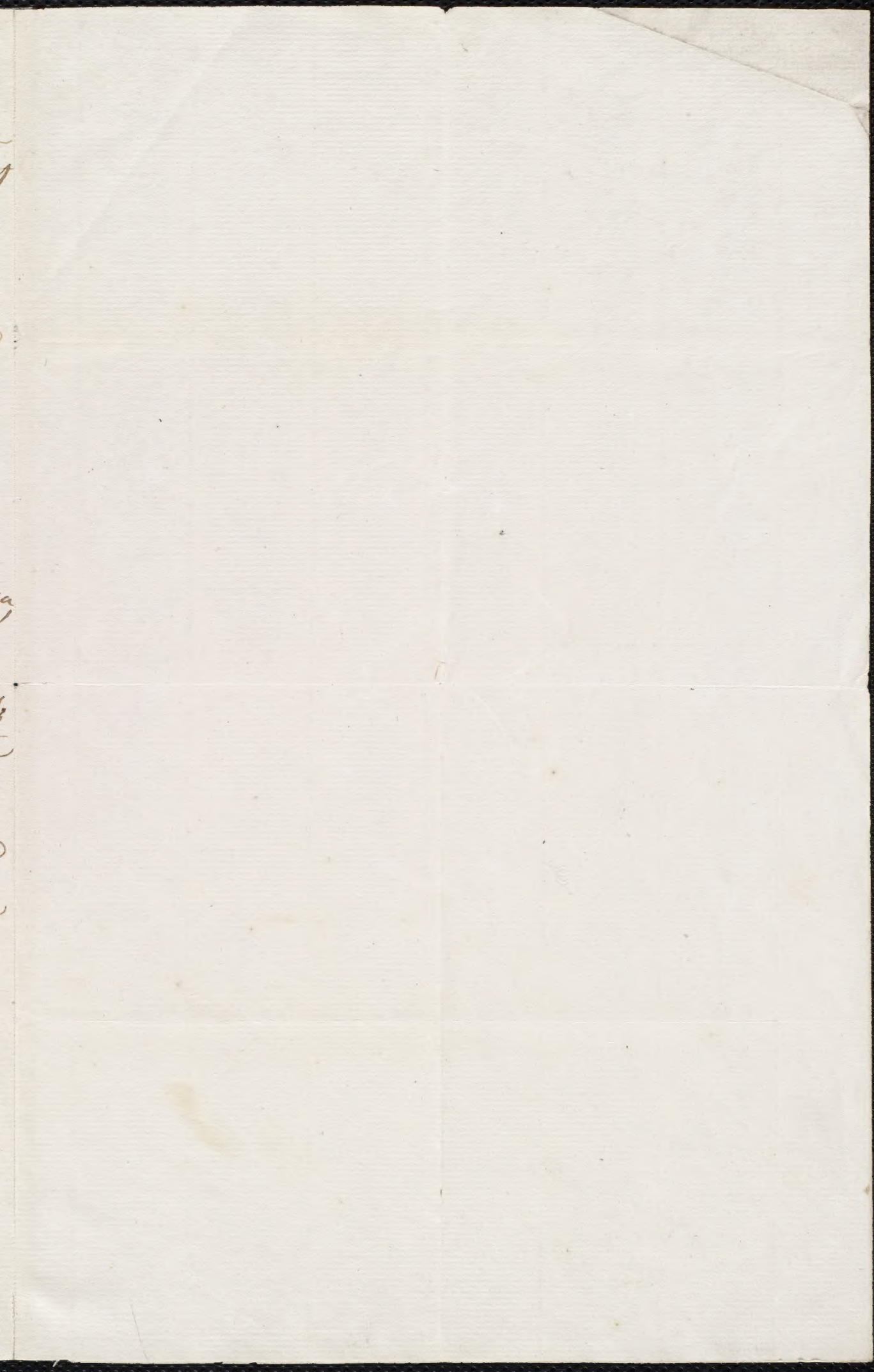
to

to America, on board of American Vessels, —
which go directly to the Mediterranean, —
and that the Powder procured from that
Side is cheaper and better than what is
made in Holland, I have received His
Majesty's Commands to order you to make
the proper Application to the Court of
Naples for obstructing the Exportation of
Gunpowder, or other warlike Stores from
Naples, or any of His Sicilian Majesty's
Dominions, to the British Colonies in America,
as any Ships laden therewith will be —
infallibly seized by His Majesty's Cruisers,
and in order to prevent this Operation, the
King trusts, from the Friendship and
good Correspondence which subsists —
between the two Crowns, that the King of
the two Sicilies will make no Difficulty
in complying with this Act of Justice.

I am, with great Truth and Regard,
Sir, Your most obedient

humble Servant
Rockford

PS,
Your Letters to N^o 15 have
been received and laid
before The King —



J. H. Woodford

28.9

Examination of
Gardens Dec 8
Rumlike stores
N. H. America